



United States
Department of
Agriculture

Food and
Consumer
Service

Mountain
Plains
Region

1244 Speer Boulevard
Denver, CO
80204-2581

NOV 01 2002

Reply to
Attn of: SP-03-01

Subject: Collection of Households' Free and Reduced-Price Eligibility Information -- "No Child Left Behind Act"

To: STATE AGENCY DIRECTORS - Colorado ED, Iowa, Kansas, Missouri ED,
(Special Nutrition Programs) Montana OPI, Nebraska, North Dakota,
South Dakota, Utah and Wyoming

We have recently become aware of concerns about requirements in the "No Child Left Behind Act" to annually collect socioeconomic data by child. Provisions of this Act have led to the inappropriate use of free and reduced price applications. Implementation of these provisions must be conducted in a manner that is consistent with the free and reduced price application-related requirements in the National School Lunch Program (NSLP) which is governed by the Richard B. Russell National School Lunch Act.

As a reminder, the policies set forth in the following memoranda are still in force, and should be applied as appropriate: SP 01-02 (issued December 29, 2000) "School Meal Applications and Direct Certification During the Operation of Provisions 2 and 3", and SP 02-03 (issued October 11, 2001) "Submission of Free and Reduced Price Applications By All Households".

Please contact our office if you have questions, at (303) 844-0355.

DARLENE SANCHEZ
Regional Director
Special Nutrition Programs